

FARM BILL FORUM

Listening Session – August 18, 2005 – 9:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.



Wyoming State Fair – Douglas, WY

QUESTIONS



When participating in the forums, the public is invited to respond to one or more of the following six questions. The format of the forum will also allow an open comment period for general farm bill comments.

1. How should farm policy address any unintended consequences and ensure that such consequences do not discourage new farmers and the next generation of farmers from entering production agriculture?

The FARM BILL is a dynamic process and should be an open document that can be amended at all times.
Land-Grant funding (Ag Colleges) need to be increased.

2. How should farm policy be designed to maximize U.S. competitiveness and our country's ability to effectively compete in global markets?

Low cost, wholesome food will be competitive. This is produced by good research, extension and teaching. Which is based in USDA/CSREES.

3. How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers? Each commodity has specific needs. Producer input is best given by each group.

4. How can farm policy best achieve conservation and environmental goals?

Education, Research and Outreach. This is best delivered by our states universities and land-grant colleges of agriculture which have over 143 years of practical experience.

5. How can Federal rural and farm programs provide effective assistance in rural areas?

Knowledge of the problem and practical remedies.
This requires a strong extension service

6. How should agricultural product development, marketing and research-related issues be addressed in the next farm bill? Strengthen USDA/CSREES so that money is available to be creative and effective.

The public is also welcome to submit their comments via the USDA Farm Bill Forums website at <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>. Throughout 2005, Johanns and other senior USDA officials will participate in the Farm Bill Forums that will be held across the country. The dates, locations and times of the forums will continue to be announced as they are scheduled and posted on the USDA website.

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